NHSN E-News

National Healthcare Safety Network

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NHSN Meeting at APIC Conference in San Jose

Please join us for the Annual NHSN Meeting on Monday, June 25 from 5:45-6:45 pm in the Convention Center at the APIC Annual Educational Conference and International Meeting in San Jose, California. Teresa Horan, Jonathan Edwards, and Mary Andrus will be there to talk about current issues and future directions for NHSN. We'll have a more specific agenda in the May newsletter.

Annual Facility Survey Requirement

Just a reminder that each NHSN facility is required to complete a new Hospital Survey or Outpatient Dialysis Practices Survey (or both) each year. We've made the process simpler for you by allowing you to copy the data from the previous year's survey, however, please take the time to update those data that have changed.

- From the blue navigation bar, select **Survey**.
- Both Hospital and Dialysis will appear – select **Add** from the appropriate facility type.
- When the Survey screen appears, select 2007 from the Survey Year drop down list (or 2006 if you haven't completed last year's survey).
- Click on the button **Copy from Prior Year** (see below). This will auto-fill the survey based on information from the previous year.

Survey Year: * 2007 ▼   Copy From Prior Year

- Read carefully through the fields in the survey and make any changes needed for the survey year being reported. NOTE: The survey answers should be based on information available to the facility at the beginning of the survey year. For example, if you are completing the survey for 2007 in May 2007, you should enter responses based on information that was true in January 2007.

Completion of the Annual Survey is a requirement for continued participation in NHSN. The surveys provide important facility-level demographic data that may be used as stratifiers of data for published comparative rates.

"Confer Rights to a Group" Training Archived

If you were unable to participate in our recent training on how to confer rights to a group, it is now archived on our NHSN Archived Training page http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn_pastTraining.html. Along with the two-part audio sessions, we have also posted the slide set and the "How-to" guide for conferring rights.

Additionally, the "How to" guide for conferring rights to a group will be included in the NHSN Help System in the coming days.

Protocol Pointers

DA Infections after Discharge
Device-associated infections (e.g., CLABSI, CAUTI, etc) are identified only during the patient hospitalization. If a DA infection becomes apparent after the patient is discharged, it is not recorded in NHSN.

Pneumonia Clarifications
- Any patient (adult, infant, immunocompromised, etc) who meets criteria can be reported as having PNU1 or PNU2. However, only those patients who meet the NHSN definition of immunocompromised and the criteria for PNU3 can be reported as having PNU3. The definition of immunocompromised can be found in footnote 13 on page 15 of the *NHSN Manual: Patient Safety Component Protocol.*
- There is a hierarchy of the specific categories of pneumonia. When a patient meets criteria for more than one category, report only one as follows:
  - If a patient meets criteria for both PNU1 and PNU2, report PNU2
  - If a patient meets criteria for both PNU2 and PNU3, report PNU3
  - If a patient meets criteria for both PNU1 and PNU3, report PNU3

Reporting SSI Detected upon Readmission
If a patient is readmitted with a previously unreported SSI that is associated with an operation that occurred during a preceding hospitalization, record the date of admission of the hospital stay in which the operation was done. For example, a patient was admitted on 03/14/06 for an operation on 3/15/06 and is discharged 03/17/06. On 3/22/06 the patient is readmitted for care of a surgical site

infection. Record 03/14/06 on the Event (SSI) record as the date of admission. Remember, to successfully save an SSI record, the following date relationship must be true:
date of admission ≤ date of operation ≤ date of event.

Incorrect Mapping of Location Codes

We have noted some incorrect mappings of facility locations to the CDC location codes. In order for the comparative data to be valid, we need to be sure that these mappings are correct at every facility. Therefore, we ask that you please look at the location codes that you have set up in your facility and check for the following:

- Do the Code and Label reflect what you call the location in your hospital?
- Is your location mapped correctly to the CDC location code? If you're not sure, please review the location definitions in the NHSN Manual: Patient Safety Component Protocol (page 72). If you're still not sure, please contact us for help.
- Examples of potential problems we've noticed:
  - Neonatal ICU mapped to Neuro ICU
  - Neuro ICU mapped to Neurosurgical ICU
  - Neuro ICU mapped to Med-Surg ICU
  - Neuro ICU mapped to Neonatal ICU
- When mapping your locations to CDC Location Codes, please remember the **80% Rule**: If 80% of patients are of a certain type (e.g., critically ill patients who undergo neurological operative procedures), then that location is designated as that type of unit (in this example, Neurosurgical ICU).

Update on NHSN for Mandatory Reporting of HAIs

Through April 2007, eight States (CA, CO, NY, OK, SC, TN, VA, and VT) were using or planning to use NHSN as a vehicle for implementing mandatory reporting of healthcare-associated infections. NY and VT hospitals have already enrolled, and hospitals in CO, OK, SC, and TN are currently taking training for enrollment this summer.

First Dialysis Outcomes Report Planned

Plans are underway to publish the first annual Dialysis Outcomes Report from NHSN later this year. Data from 2006 participants in dialysis surveillance activities in NHSN will be summarized in a summer or fall publication. We will update you with the exact reference for this report as soon as it becomes available.

NHSN Statistics – April 2007

Facilities reporting in NHSN	**511**
Monthly Reporting Plans	**7,664**
Patients entered	**269,675**
Summary Data Records	**14,337**
Events	**308,176**
BSI	**11,648**
PNEU	**6,132**
SSI	**10,096**
UTI	**9,535**
DI	**6,722**
Procedures	**257,696**
Facilities importing OR records	**44**
Output (Rates, graphs, etc.) generated	**44,924**